

Dateline...

STATE TO ASSUME LOCAL COURT COSTS

ALBANY—Senate Minority Leader Manfred Ohrenstein said today that the phased-in State takeover of local court costs, approved by a special session of the Legislature August 5, will result in more than \$27 million in savings to Upstate localities in fiscal year 1977-78. Upstate communities can expect savings of more than \$100 million when the State takeover of court financing is completed in four years, said Senator Ohrenstein.

"In the first year of the takeover, fiscal year 1977-78, the State will assume 25 per cent of total court costs to localities," Ohrenstein said. "In the final year of the phase-in, the State will absorb 100 per cent of local court costs."

Ohrenstein explained, "The State takeover of local court costs will provide for a more economical, efficient court system free of dependence on varying fiscal capabilities of individual local governments. Funding from a single source will permit allocation of limited money and manpower unhindered by artificial local boundaries and the competing needs of local governments."

"At a time when many local courts in New York State are threatened with severe budget cuts that could seriously impair their operations, a unified state court budget will ensure that limited resources are allocated according to need and utilized effectively."

CRAFT FAIR 1976

ITHACA—Craft Fair Ithaca 1976, held at Ithaca College through August 14, became an authentic "product" in N.Y. State through the cooperation of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and the New York State Department of Commerce with the New York State Craftsmen Inc.—and thousands of fairgoers as well as craftspeople have now been introduced to the label identification program for New York State products.

New York State Agriculture Commissioner J. Roger Barber pointed out that "Crafts flourish throughout the entire State of New York. Our work with craftspeople and their organizations such as the New York State Craftsmen Inc. ties in with our Department's efforts to bring a whole new vitality to rural New York State."

The "Grown in N.Y. State" program was initiated last year by the State Agriculture Department to let consumers know about the excellence and variety of the fresh fruits and vegetables grown by New York farmers and encourage people to "Buy New York" and support the State's economy.

As the bright red label became more familiar, consumers demonstrated a preference for New York products, and fresh New York State produce sales increased by more than 20 percent.

State Commerce Commissioner John S. Dyson said, "We'd be very happy to have New York's craftspeople adopt the 'Made in N.Y. State' label. It would mean added recognition for these fine handcrafted items and consumers would be assured that these items were genuinely 'Made in New York State.'"

PUBLIC MEETING

ALBANY—The State Health Planning Commission will conduct a public meeting at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 18, in Hearing Room C of the Legislative Office Building in Albany focusing on New York State's plans to implement the "National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974."

Dr. Kevin M. Cahill, Chairman of the Commission and Governor Hugh Carey's Special Assistant for Health Affairs, said the chief purpose of the meeting is to provide the public an opportunity to express views on the proposed administrative program to implement the Act.

The Health Planning Act establishes a network of State and area-wide agencies which work in tandem to annually prepare health plans; administer a State certificate of need program for health and mental health facilities and services; and review program plans and applications for various Federally-funded health programs such as mental health, alcohol abuse, and immunization.

WINTER OLYMPICS BILL

ALBANY—Congressman Robert C. McEwen, R-N.Y. will personally urge President Ford to sign a bill authorizing \$49.3 million for the 1980 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid.

A joint House-Senate Conference earlier this week agreed on a \$49.3 million bill for the Lake Placid Olympics, viewed by Congressman McEwen as "great news" for "Lake Placid, Northern New York and the world athletic community."

The Federal funds are to assist in the planning, design and construction of the facilities needed for the Olympics. McEwen said he anticipated "no major problems" for passage of the Conference legislation.

765kv line construction to begin; effect on area workers uncertain

By Will Brady
PASNY spokesman Ken Graham from the New York City office confirmed by telephone on Monday that "approximately 400 persons" would be employed for the construction of the controversial 765 Kv lines "northern section" which traverses from Fort Covington to Edwards.

Most of the people to be hired would work as linemen, laborers or carpenters. In addition, others would be employed as equipment operators, tree trimmers and for the clearing of brush. A small group of people would be hired for engineering work, as inspectors and as safety personnel.

Just how many people from Northern New York would occupy these future positions was more difficult to ascertain. PASNY officials indicated that the firms contracted to build the line were responsible for hiring. When contacted, the firms indicated that Local 1249 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers was responsible for hiring most of the workers on the line.

While it was impossible to obtain a breakdown on how many people would be doing what on the 765 Kv line construction work, figures were acquired for how many people were at work on smaller, 230 Kv line contracted by PASNY to Buffalo Electric Construction of West Seneca, and Theodore Bros Line Construction Corp. of Hartford, Connecticut.

Current figures apparently conflict on the number of individuals working on the first stage of construction, which involves clearing brush, trimming trees and sorting and locating poles at specific sites. The field office maintained by jointly by Buffalo Electric and Bros indicated that as many as 90 people are working on this first part of the project which is expected to be completed by November 1, 1976.

In contrast, William Shutter, a representative of local 1249 IBEW, stated that "approximately 60" people are at work on the clearing project for the 230 Kv line.

Shutter indicated that, of the 60 people employed, there were two categories of union members. The first, "A" type members, were concerned with actual construction of the line and support

crews. There were, he stated 22 people in this category, "approximately half" coming from the North Country.

The remaining 40 workers were in the "B" classification. These included people working for Tree Preservation Company, Inc. of Elmsford, and their work is concerned with the removal of brush and trees along the projected route. Of the second group, Shutter indicated that "90 percent" were North Country residents.

Shutter defined "North Country" as "all the area north of Ulster." He further stated and was supported by comments from field office representatives in Bombay, that only union members would be hired. If an individual came to the field office, he or she would be "advised" to go to Syracuse to join the IBEW and would then be placed on a waiting list including union members from local 1249.

Local no. 1249's area of jurisdiction, from where its work pool is drawn, was indicated as being "all of New York State north and west of Westchester County."

PASNY official Bob Connors from the Massena office, indicated that it was hoped the line would be completed by September 15, 1977 in order to be put into operation by summer of 1978. PASNY officials are still awaiting approval from New York State's Public Service Commission (PSC) to begin the clearing work on the "northern section" of the proposed line route, which would run from Fort Covington to Edwards.

When questioned about the criticisms levied against PASNY's apparent "rush" to complete the line, indeed, even to construct the line, before ongoing health and safety hearings are completed, Ken Graham indicated that the "line's purpose is to bring low cost hydro power from Canada during peak summer months. In addition, the line would have the capability of returning the power flow" back to Canada and Northern New York during the winter months.

Asked about the concerns of organizations such as UPSET, who recently filed for a stay of approval on the line's construction and feel the line's unstated purpose is to be available were nuclear plants constructed near the St. Lawrence River PASNY spokesman

Ken Graham indicated that critical groups "threw in" the nuclear issue because the nuclear issue would scare people.

While not denying that nuclear power plants may play a part in St. Lawrence County's future, Graham constantly stressed that the purpose of the 765 Kv line, with an operating capacity of 4000 megawatts, would be to transmit 800 megawatts of electrical power purchased from Hydro Quebec during seven months of the year.

On the other hand, Bob Connors, of PASNY's Massena office, indicated that nuclear power plants were included in PASNY's long-term planning documents, but only as a possible alternative to insure production of future demands for electricity. Were a nuclear plant to be

constructed, it would only be started after submitting all the proper data to the state for approval. No such request for construction has been submitted.

Bob Ballan, a spokesman for UPSET said that PASNY's "rush" to get construction started was related to the as yet uncompleted hearing before the Federal Energy Board of Canada. Two provinces, Ontario and New Foundland, have requested that Hydro Quebec be restricted from exchanging power with "severely limited" amounts of electricity that PASNY could purchase from the Canadian utilities company.

PASNY spokesmen indicated that the contract with Hydro Quebec agrees to transmit "at least 800 megawatts of firm power" for the duration of the contract

from 1978 until 1996. Any delays, it was said, would "impose costs of 45 million dollars each year," costs which would, according to PSC "fuel adjustment clause" be legally passed "directly, automatically and completely," on to the customers of downstate utilities firms.

In contrast, Ballan stated the contract between PASNY and Hydro Quebec was re-negotiable after five years, at which time the Canadian utility firm could, if it wished, "raise the rates" on electricity sold to PASNY or even "pull out" of the contract altogether. He further noted a Hydro Quebec spokesman had been quoted in Toronto Globe and Mail earlier this year as saying "We've no intention of supplying Americans with cheap electricity. That's why the contract is negotiable."



A LAPAROSCOPE, a new piece of equipment donated by the Potsdam Hospital Unit Guild, will allow area women to undergo a simple surgical method of sterilization which has previously been unavailable here. Through use of the laparoscope, a new and permanent method of birth control has been developed whereby the tubes are permanently sealed. There is usually little discomfort and few complications. The instrument has many other diagnostic and therapeutic applications including infertility studies, liver

biopsies, retrieval of foreign bodies, diagnosis of pelvic pain, and cancer assessment. The laparoscope permits the surgeon to view the abdominal cavity and pelvis without making the usual large incision, and perform procedures that would otherwise require major abdominal surgery. Pictured in photograph from left to right are: Anne Bitley, Guild President, Arlene Rust, Past Guild President; and Dr. Donald Doucet, OB-GYN.

Varied agenda handled by Potsdam Trustees

By Mike Kane

The regularly scheduled August meeting of the Potsdam Village Board opened with Trustee Ted Schultze's reading of the Declaration of Independence, closed with a resolution to re-construct the Village water filtration plant, and included a heavy agenda of topics in the interim.

Monday night's session, held at the Village Board rooms was kicked off with Schultze's reading of the Declaration of Independence. Schultze had requested that he be able to read the document at the July meeting of the Board as his way of correcting "a gross oversight" in this Bicentennial year.

Bids were opened for sections of copper and cast iron pipes and fittings, a fire hydrant and on a backhoe rental. Martisco Corporation of Syracuse was the apparent low bidder for the piping and hydrant with a bid of \$6,979.45. Mark LaFontain Inc., of Potsdam entered the apparent low bid on the backhoe, at \$14.75 per hour.

A roll call vote brought unanimous support to the resolution authorizing the construction of the water filtration plant. The vote followed a spirited debate during which Trustee Lionel Hewitson pointed out that the \$1,500,000 price tag was probably outdated. Rising labor and material costs have probably jacked the price up to \$1,750,000, he maintained. Trustee Schultze questioned the founding procedures of the project. He asked that the Board investigate a way whereby local people would be able to purchase the bonds necessary to fund the project. No action was taken on Schultze's request. The resolution as passed read: "...a resolution authorizing the re-construction of the Village water filtration plant and the construction of the of additional water storage facility in an amount of \$1,750,000 for said re-construction and construction further, authorizing Wilkie, Farr & Gallagher (Sykes, Galloway & Dikeman) of New York City to prepare a bond resolution for the financing thereof."

Leon LaForty, doing business as LaForty Bus Lines of Oxbow, New York was granted a permanent franchise to operate buses on the streets of the Village. LaForty has operated the Village Bus for the past two years, under a temporary authority to see if it might be successful. Convinced that the system is profitable, LaForty has applied to the Department of Transportation for permanent authority to operate. Village approval was required before the DOT could grant approval to the program.

Local law No. 3, concerning the parking regulations on Leroy Street, was approved. The new law, which takes effect immediately reads: "No parking on the East side of Leroy Street

from the southerly bounds of Cottage Street extended, north 200 feet, more or less, to the Potsdam Central School parking lot driveway." A public hearing was held on the matter. At that meeting, no village residents appeared to comment on the proposed law.

Sandstoner Park was mentioned by Mayor John Hayes. In a report to the Board, the Mayor explained that following the last Board meeting he contacted the New York State Department of Health in Massena. Hans Pahler, Department of Health official, inspected the beach for the Mayor and declared the swimming area safe. When questioned on the need for a breakwater, Pahler reportedly stated that he would make no recommendation for such a construction as it may cause an unnecessary buildup of bacteria in the water.

Lee Fenner commented on the proposed Homestead Dairy building on Munson Street. "I think it would be a great mistake," she said, "we don't need a fast food operation downtown." Fenner also stated that Homestead's present operation on Maple Street was unsightly and voiced fears that a similar "truck stop" would be developed at the Munson Street site. Earlier this summer the Urban Renewal Agency granted Homestead Dairy preferred status as the developer of the Munson Street parcel. Trustee Hewitson explained that the Agency's action was but one step in the process and that permission and approval of plans and specifications must still be approved by the Planning Board and the Village Board.

In other action, the board accepted bids opened at the July meeting, authorized the Administrator to advertise for bids for one pickup truck and one sanding machine, authorized the treasurer to sign authorization for deposit of Federal Recurring Payments Form for the deposit of future Federal Revenue Sharing payments, moved \$2,500 from the contingency fund a line designated "Trees". The monies for the trees will be used to continue the removal of the dead Elm Trees in the Village.

The solicitation effort of the Unification Church was discussed. Members of the church were in Potsdam on August 6 and 7. After registering with Village Administrator Charles Sandwith, the "Moonies" spent the two days selling candy to raise funds for the Unification Church, headed by Korean businessman Sun Yung Moon. The Unification Church is presently being investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, and has drawn much criticism throughout the country for its recruitment practices. Four complaints were received during the "Moonies" stay, according to Sandwith.

County planning board suffers budget cuts

The St. Lawrence County Planning board met last night to consider a preliminary budget proposal for 1977 which will represent "a very major cut back in staff and services," according to Richard Grover, County Planner.

The reduced budget is the result of cuts in revenue in both state and federal aid programs. "New York State has, with federal direction, given the lowest priority to local planning boards, while giving highest priority to regional planning," Grover said.

Under the new budget, all local town and village planning projects will have to be eliminated, and new ones have not been approved. Grover cited Waddington as one area which would not be given approval.

He also said that local programs in the Adirondack Park had been cut by \$78,000 as compared to \$93,000 for this year.

The Planning Board recommended

Five named to Rec. committee

As part of the Village of Potsdam's continuing effort to combine forces with the Town of Potsdam's Recreation Commission, Mayor John Hayes has appointed five Village residents to the Recreation Committee. Speaking before last night's monthly meeting of the Potsdam Village Board, Hayes named William Sloan, Jack Hantz, Sheila Cerwonka, Gerald Bradshaw, and Neil Johnson to the committee.

Johnson, the only new member of the Recreation Committee that formerly numbered seven members is on the staff of the Physical Education Department at Potsdam State.

Hayes hoped that the Town and Village would be able to unite, give the Recreation Commission a budget and give them some responsibility. Trustee Ruth Garner urged the committee to become active, stating that she felt the Recreation Committee had had a bad track record in the past. Garner also asked the Board to consider both Jean Kilroy and Carol Beamer as possible future appointees to the Recreation Committee.

\$250,000, although some \$150,000 of that amount is being restored by other means.

In 1976 the board had \$56,000 in revenues. 1977's \$28,000 in revenues will necessitate significant staff reductions. The associate planner position now held bymarg Spierling and the planner position now held by Carolyn Rabson will be funded for only half the year, reducing staff by the equivalent of one position.

1976's budget allowed \$14,000 for extra help in several areas and that amount will be reduced to \$4,000.

The board also recommended a reduction for travel and other miscellaneous expenses by about \$3,000.

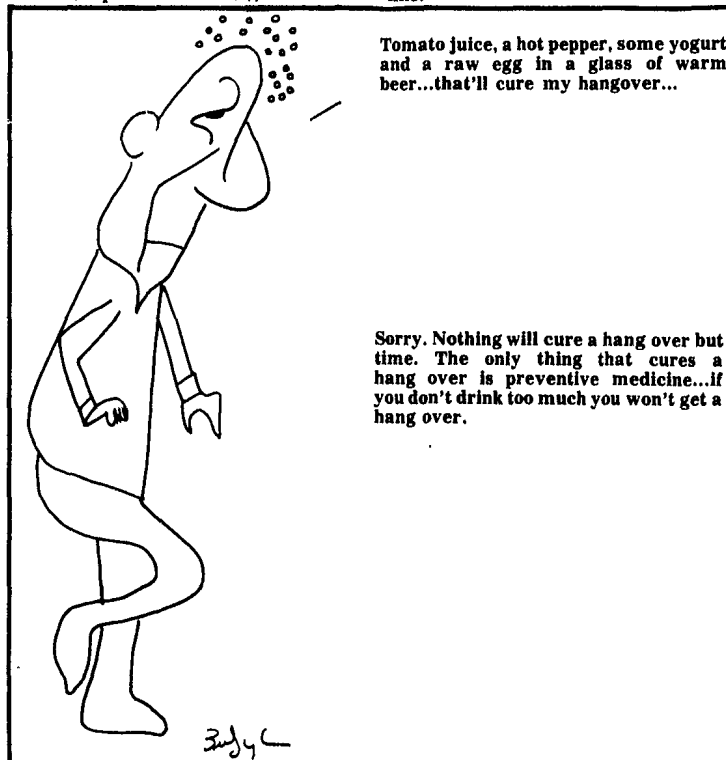
The recommendation would bring the 1977 proposed total budget to about

one promotion. The associate planner position held by Steve Dean would be abolished and a preliminary planners position would be instituted in its place, in effect constituting a promotion.

The board also heard a progress report on the 765 Kv line.

There is a prospect for further Agricultural Impact Hearings in Agricultural District Five and for some in Lewis and Oneida districts, to determine adverse effect of the line on agriculture, and the Board commended the move.

Members of the board will also be inspecting the clearing process used along the course of the 230 Kv line between Massena and Plattsburgh to evaluate it. A similar process would be employed for clearing the area of the 765 line.



Tomato juice, a hot pepper, some yogurt and a raw egg in a glass of warm beer...that'll cure my hangover...

Sorry. Nothing will cure a hang over but time. The only thing that cures a hang over is preventive medicine...if you don't drink too much you won't get a hang over.